



# Internet Payment Platform



*The IPP transforms inefficient paperbound systems into streamlined electronic processes for both Federal agencies and their suppliers.*

## About the Internet Payment Platform (IPP)

The Internet Payment Platform (IPP) is a comprehensive payment information service made available to all Federal agencies and their suppliers by the US Department of the Treasury's Financial Management Service (FMS). The IPP centralizes data on all transactions in the purchase-to-pay process, including purchase orders, invoices and payments, in one easy-to-use Web-based portal.

- Available at no charge to agencies and suppliers
- Eliminate time-consuming paper-based processes
- Expedite approvals by routing invoices automatically
- Improve communications and discount opportunities with suppliers

### A Flexible Solution for Agencies

The IPP provides Federal agencies with a flexible service designed to increase efficiencies and capture cost savings in the purchase-to-pay process. The IPP's modular design allows agencies to select and implement the specific services most appropriate to their business needs, with the option of adding additional features in the future.

- Enable electronic delivery of purchase orders (POs) to registered suppliers
- Receive electronic invoices from suppliers
- Route invoices automatically for expedited online approvals
- Capitalize on discount opportunities offered by suppliers
- View reports on Treasury payments
- Use a centralized directory to facilitate supplier enrollment—suppliers enrolled by one agency can transact with all IPP agencies
- Select from a wealth of email notification options



### Addressing Agency Business Challenges

The approval and processing of paper-based documents is often time-consuming and error-prone. Agency finance personnel are finding they have more work and fewer resources. Staff must repeatedly field questions from suppliers about invoice and payment status, partial payments and returns – taking valuable time away from key business responsibilities. The IPP addresses these challenges by automating manual processes and centralizing information through a Web-based application accessible only to authorized users.

### The IPP Solution

With the IPP, agency and supplier staff can readily access a single portal to exchange purchase orders, invoices, and payment information. The need for agency staff to field inquiries from suppliers is reduced, as suppliers can readily access transaction and status information through an online self-service interface.

The IPP receives and consolidates up-to-date information from three major sources:

- Proprietary payment data from existing FMS disbursement and accounting systems
- Purchase order and receipt data from agency systems
- Order acknowledgement and invoice data from supplier fulfillment systems

In addition, the IPP provides a unique centralized directory which allows an agency to leverage suppliers already enrolled by other agencies. Unlike other vendor solutions, there is no need to have suppliers enroll on multiple portals. The IPP offers customizable workflow options to quickly route invoices to people within an agency—even at different locations—to help Contracting Officers and COTRs get their jobs done faster and easier. With the IPP agencies can take advantage of discounts offered by suppliers, improve cost savings, and overall processing efficiency. The result: agencies have more time to focus on other strategic initiatives within their organizations.

### Features and Functions of the IPP

#### Use a Single Website to View All Transaction Data

Agencies and suppliers can view orders, invoices, and payment settlement data in one place, eliminating the need to log-on to and query multiple systems, or to send letters or make phone calls about these inquiries.

#### Present Purchase Orders Electronically

Agencies can send electronic purchase orders and goods receipts from their procurement or core financial system to IPP suppliers, while suppliers can use the system to return order acknowledgements, advanced shipping notifications and invoices.

#### Receive Invoices Electronically

The IPP makes it simple for suppliers to submit their invoices to agencies with multiple ways to generate electronic invoices. Agencies can import these invoices to their core financial systems as well as view them online for easier and faster approval processing.

#### Approve Invoices Using Automatic Routing

The IPP lets agencies define their own workflow rules to route invoices electronically for quicker approvals.

#### Set E-mail Notifications for Agencies and Suppliers

Agencies and suppliers can set up e-mail notifications defining preferences for order, invoice or payment update notifications.

#### View Information on Return, Debt

#### Offset, and Partial Payment Data

This proprietary information, along with the offset reason, is available online, and associated with the cancelled original payment.

#### Manage Discounts and Prompt Payment Strategies

The IPP offers agencies additional tools to manage Prompt Pay and discount strategies, reducing overall expenditures for purchases throughout the agency.

#### Implement Supplier Enrollment With Ease

IPP provides an easy-to-navigate online process for enrolling suppliers. By using a centralized directory, a supplier need only enroll once with the IPP to transact with any IPP-enabled agency.

#### Know That Information is Secure

The IPP is built on a secure architecture and is certified to conform to Federal security requirements, including the use of role-based security and encryption.

#### Use Self-Service Administration Tools

Agency and supplier account administrators can define and maintain preferences, options and e-mail notification accounts, enabling the IPP to meet their specific business needs and manage user access.



The IPP can reduce costs to both agencies and suppliers.

#### Savings in Processing Costs

View transactions on-line to eliminate the costs of issuing and mailing paper purchase orders and routing invoices.

#### Flexible Workflow for Expedited Approvals

Route and approve invoices online to cut down on the time needed to send and receive copies of invoices to and from authorized approvers.

#### Managing Prompt Pay Rules

Use automated notification alerts, escalation strategies, and online reports to make sure that invoices are approved and paid according to the Federal Prompt Pay guidelines.

#### Taking Advantage of Discount Opportunities

Increase savings by using the IPP's discount manager service to assist in decision-making and to let suppliers offer immediate discounts.

#### Increasing the Efficiency of Transactions

Encourage suppliers to convert to EFT and a paperless invoice and payments processing environment to improve agency process efficiency.

#### IPP Solutions Are Available At No Charge

Transform purchase order and approval processes without the high costs associated with solutions offered by commercial vendors.

[www.ipp.gov](http://www.ipp.gov)



## internet payment platform

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<http://www.ipp.gov>

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